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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2009

What's cooking?

Photos from Incredible Edibles workshop
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End of an era
 George Duma reflects Port office closure
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VOLUNTEER

FUNDRAISER: From running to cutting their hair, support for cancer research stands strong in Port Colborne

Teen on a mission

KAESHA FORAND
 InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — A three week trip in Kenya to help build a school with Free The Children has led Annie Salvage on a mission to create a Port Colborne chapter of the organization. The 17-year-old spent three weeks in Saltwek, Kenya, in August as part of Free The Children.

See **KENYA** | Page 2

See Inside: **PUPP'S INSERTS**
 Full Distribution

The Healthy Cupboard

Bargain Shop

HOMES EXTRA



BOGGIO PHARMACY LTD. **IDEA**

MARK TAYTI
 InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Taking the "short cut" took on a whole new meaning at Port Colborne's Terry Fox Run Sunday.

That's when six people cut their hair to help raise money and awareness for cancer research, continued as a well-attended Marathon of Hope that kicked off at 2 p.m. The day was an opportunity to remember loved ones taken by cancer and to draw inspiration from the man who started it all in 1980. "I know too many people who have been affected by cancer," said Rose Bye, who planned to donate her hair to Locks for Love. Bye drew her inspiration to cut her hair from a little girl named Carleigh, who had leukemia — back when the Port Colborne Mac's store manager was attending university.

She plans to have a pledge sheet up at the Killaly St. W. store until the end of the month to add to the more than \$1,300 she has already collected.

Bye wasn't the only person who was there to support a cancer patient past or present. Connie Yovovich was at the Marathon of Hope with her husband Peter, who is recovering from colon cancer.



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upfront

■ MARATHON OF HOPE

Shedding locks for Terry Fox

FROM PAGE 1

Rebecca Carr, of Port Colborne, has taken part in previous runs.

"I have a few friends and relatives who have had cancer. I ride for them," she said.

Martha Lizotte was a first-timer at the event.

"I am inspired by the man himself," Lizotte said. "I thought I would try it out. If I like it, I'll probably do it again next year."

Salvage was not concerned about overcast skies at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park.

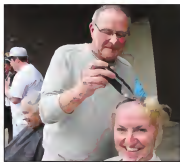
"I won't have to worry about getting a sunburned head," she said just before getting her hair shaved off.

Salvage was among the half-dozen people to hear the buzz of the shaver during The Great Canadian Head Shave for Terry Fox. She was glad to associate her name with a cause that has kept its grassroots approach during the last 29 years. Salvage said Terry Fox is one of those selfless heroes that is able to inspire others three decades later.

"This raises money for all types of cancer research. For me, as a nurse, it's the right thing to do. The money raised here today will go to top-level Canadian research."

Last year, the community run raised about \$8,000. Salvage expected about 150 people to participate.

mtayti@wellandtribune.ca



MARK TAYTI
Staff Photo

Pictured left: Nancy Salvage, coordinator of the Port Colborne Terry Fox Marathon of Hope, had her hair shaved off on Sunday. Barber Jules Premi did the honours.

■ KENYA: Port High student returns from Free the Children voyage

Teen on a mission to help children

FROM PAGE 1

With 25 other members of the group, she built the walls for a classroom and the foundation for a second classroom.

Salvage first became involved with Free the Children in Grade 8 when she heard a presentation by Julie Mannell, a strong Free the Children activist from Fonthill who spoke of a trip she had taken to India to help children.

Throughout high school, the Port Colborne High School student wrote speeches on global citizenship, racism and happiness and became involved with Free the Children — the world's largest network of children helping children through education.

"I wanted to do a trip. I was going to go to Ecuador last year but it didn't work out."

She always had a dream of travelling to Africa and jumped on the opportunity to help during the Kenyan trip after attending a conference led by Free the Children founder Craig Kielburger.

"I came home inspired to do something."

She joined about 20 Canadians and five Americans between the ages of 14 and 22 in Kenya. Many of her comrades had the opportunity to fundraise for their trip, but due to the short notice, she went to the "bank of mom and dad" to pay her way. Fortunately, her parents were very supportive of their daughter helping others.

After receiving numerous inoculation and papers, she made her way by plane to London, then to Nairobi and took a bus to Salbwek. On the other side of the world, it's winter and she endured dry, 35 degree days with cold nights while staying in a camp.

Since a previous Free the Children group had just completed a project, the group arrived to begin building the classroom with the capability of holding 25 students and a teacher comfortably.

In the morning, the group would mix cement, lay brick, dig footings and break rocks among other tasks.

"It's hard labour, they don't have modern tools so you do a lot by hand," she said noting the tools they had such as shovels were also very fragile.



Submitted Photo

Port Colborne teen Annie Salvage returned from a three-week trip to Salbwek, Kenya on Aug. 28 after helping to build a classroom with Free the Children and 25 other volunteers. She wants to continue helping children by creating a Port Colborne Free the Children chapter and hopes to raise \$8,500 to build a school in a developing country.

After lunch they would participate in activities, visit local villages and "talk to people in the community. They would teach us dances and Swahili songs and we would teach them."

With primitive living comes long walks to access water. Salvage experienced the hour-long walks carrying 10-litre jugs.

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portraits

Dishing out healthy eating advice

Healthy eating starts with learning good cooking habits. The Incredible Edibles program has provided local children and adults with cooking workshops for the whole family to teach them how to prepare healthy, affordable meals with the help of registered dietitian Maureen Gall. The program is held at the Port Cares Reach Out Centre in co-operation with Bridges Community Health Centre and Healthy Living Niagara.

—STAFF PHOTOS, KAESHA FORAND



Above: The Reach Out Centre's manager Mary Anne Feagan helps a group.



Right: Gall roams the Reach Out Centre garden with John Richardson (left), Ethan Richardson, Evan Armstrong and Hayden Richardson.



Above: Andrea Armstrong chops lettuce for the spicy turkey tacos
Left: Gall helps Hayden Richardson measure spices.

IMPORT NEWS

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ourview

Texting while driving is the new impairment

WAYNE NEWTON
Sun Media

YouTube has created more than its share of unlikely internet stars since its launch four years ago. One of the most recent sensations came as a result of a farmer from tiny Lucan, Ont., whose humorous vehicle stunt videos have made him a celebrity to the 23 million views of a wedding entrance to last winter's plea from a Sudbury-area boy to curb the outrageous behaviour of hockey parents. Who knew YouTube could actually get kids to watch a public service announcement?

That's the case now as millions of viewers should be going to a PSA posted by a police service in Wales. It's timely message: Texting while driving can kill.

Well, duh. The video available on YouTube shows a bubbly teenager named Cassie who triggers a pileup that kills four people when she tries to send a text message while driving with a carload of her giggly teenage friends. The graphic, slow-motion depiction of the crash shows heads going through windshields, bloodied bodies and the lifeless eyes of a baby. Hence the appeal for the YouTube crowd.

Every generation needs to be convinced that driving commands total attention.

That texting while driving is a bad idea seems obvious. Then again, 40 years ago many people thought it was OK to drive after having one too many cocktails. Every generation needs to be convinced that driving commands total attention.

Trying to send text messages while driving may be more distracting than talking on a phone. Research by a British motorists' group found texting slowed young drivers' reaction times by 35%, more than drugs or alcohol. A study of truck drivers by the Virginia Tech transportation Institute found texting increased the risk of collision by 23 times far more than the increase from talking on a cellphone.

Most provinces have already banned use of hand-held cellphones while driving, not that it has completely eliminated the problem because, as they say, you can't legislate common sense. Alberta, Manitoba and P.E.I., no doubt, should soon catch up with the rest of the country.

Maybe then we'll feel the same disdain for using cellphones to chat or send instant texts while driving as we already feel for impaired drivers.

DONATIONS: Canal Days tips benefit children



During Canal Days, visitors contributed \$116.18 in tips during the concerts. The funds were recently donated to the Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre by Wainfleet Mayor Barb Henderson to Jim Marino, foundation executive director and foundation trustee Brian Carter, with Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badway.

I'VE BEEN THINKING

There's no time in eternity

MAHLON MARTIN
Portal Village Bible Chapel

We are all subject to movement of time.

We all have the same allotment of time. Each new day puts 1,440 minutes at our fingertips to be used as we choose. It is God's special gift to us and should be used wisely. "Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: Great is your faithfulness (Lamentations 3:22-23)." I once knew a system analyst that allowed so many minutes for each job. If you used too many minutes, he was quick to tell you. That's what made him a good system analyst.

Time will be with us in this life only. When we enter eternity there will be no time. It will be an endless, immeasurable period of existence where things can never change. The Bible uses the analogy of a falling tree to describe this. It simply says, "Where the tree falls it will lie." We in heaven will always be there. They in hell will always be there. They are both real eternal places. Those in heaven will be busy serving and praising the Lord. I really don't know what

those in hell will do. The Bible simply says they will be in eternal torment. We will each be in the place where we chose to be. I can't comprehend anyone choosing a place of torment rather than a place of joy and blessing. It seems they are doing so because they don't want God to run their lives or even to be in their lives. And you know God will never violate our human choice.

Time brings with it endless responsibilities and opportunities. This life is a time of decisions. We decide our employment and station in life. We choose and follow the things we like to do.

We had four sons in our home. They have each chosen their spot in life. When the oldest one made his choice, the next one knew he was a different personality and could not do that so he chose something else. The other two did likewise.

I once asked my dental hygienist if she ever got tired of poking around teeth. She told me she enjoys it. She does that every day, all day. Our sons do very well in their professions my hygienist does a super job in her. We are exhorted to be good stewards of those things entrusted to us.

See I'VE BEEN THINKING | Page 5

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WORLD ISSUES

Targets and consequences



Gwynne Dyer

Nick Griffin, the leader of the British National Party, is a "soft" fascist who does not rent in the 1930s style. But he can't possibly close to the old style two months ago when, newly elected to the European Parliament, he called for "very tough" measures to stop illegal African migrants from entering the European Union by crossing the Mediterranean in boats.

Interviewed afterwards by the BBC, he said: "Frankly, they need to sink several of those boats." The interviewer interrupted him, protesting that the European Union does not murder people. "I didn't say anybody should be murdered at sea," Griffin replied. "I say boats should be sunk, they can throw them in life raft, and they can go back to Libya. But Europe has sooner or later to close its borders or it's going to be swamped by the third world."

It's standard neo-fascist rhetoric and the people who use it are still shunned by mainstream European politics. But if the Copenhagen climate summit in December doesn't make a start at getting climate change under control, that may be mainstream rhetoric in Europe in 20 years. By then, the British National Party will be hit first and worst by global warming. As their crops die from too much heat and too little water, huge numbers of climate refugees will head north — out of Mexico and Central America to the United States, out of Africa and the Middle East to the European Union. Griffin-style talk will start to sound reasonable, and the southern borders of Europe and the U.S. will become fortified zones.

So there is some comfort to be had from this week's offer by Japan's prime minister-elect, Yukio Hatoyama, to cut his country's emissions to 25% below the 1980 level by 2020.

That is a huge advance on the previous Japanese government's offer of a 8% cut by 2020. It brings the country into the zone of 25-40% cuts by 2020 that was set as a target for developed countries by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Since the European Union has already adopted a target to limit emissions cuts on 1990 levels by 2020, with a promise to go to 30%, cuts at the Copenhagen talks if other industrialized countries do the same, there now seems to be a serious offer on the table.

See GWYNNE DYER | Page

■ GWYNNE DYER

World needs commitments from developed countries

FROM PAGE 4

Unfortunately, there is also a catch. The catch is that Japan's 25% offer and the EU's 30% offer both depend on other developed countries — by which they mean the U.S. — adopting a similar target.

But President Barack Obama isn't promising any cut out at all on the 1990 level of U.S. emissions. He's just offering to get back to that level by 2020, using as an excuse the fact the growth of U.S. emissions during eight years of denial under the Bush administration. Both the Europeans and the Japanese know that the U.S. is not going to offer deep cuts at Copenhagen, so they will not have to deliver on their own offers. And if the industrialized countries do not commit to really deep cuts, then rapidly developing countries like China and India will not accept even the fuzziest constraints on their own emissions.

So what can be accomplished at Copenhagen?

Not much in terms of hard targets, probably, but the game does not end there.

This problem won't go away, and we will all be back around the negotiating table before long. Meantime, there is one really valuable thing that Obama could achieve at Copenhagen.

The game of percentage cuts on past emissions is fundamentally stupid. To avoid the risk of runaway heating, we must never exceed an average global temperature 2 degrees C (3.6 degrees F) higher than it was in 1990.

That equates to 450 parts per million of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, and we are already at 380 ppm. So you can work out quite easily how much more carbon dioxide we can afford to dump into the atmosphere in the rest of this century. That's the right target and making it official would transform the negotiating process.

We would then be dealing with real numbers, and the negotiations would be about dividing up the remaining permissible emissions between the various developed and developing countries.

It was Barack Obama who pushed all 20 high-emitting countries into accepting 2 degrees C as the never-exceed limit on global warming at the G8/G20 summit in Italy, so we're already halfway there.

Maybe at Copenhagen he'll drop the other shoe.

Gwynne Dyer's latest book, *Climate Wars*, was published recently in Canada by Random House.

■ I'VE BEEN THINKING

Where will you spend eternity?

FROM PAGE 4

Even the Bible is divided into segments of time. In the Old Testament we have the time of the patriarchs. We have the time of the prophets. In the New Testament we have the time of Christ. We have the time of the apostles and the early church.

At present, we are in the time of God's patience toward us as we waits for people to accept his salvation. This is often referred to as the Day of Grace.

I once heard a person say he asked a young lady why she didn't get saved and her answer was she would have to change her lifestyle and she would have to admit that her parents were right and she was wrong. He asked if those matters were worth burning in hell forever. She said she wasn't sure.

"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is living suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance (Peter 3:9)."

After the time of the rapture, the time when God will take all born again people out of this world, will be the time of God's judgment upon this

evil world. After that there will be a period of absolute peace for 1,000 years.

During that time, God will reign in supreme righteousness and will not allow any transgressions. Then will come the awesome occasion of God's final judgment on the unsaved. The Lord will then assign them to their eternal spot in hell.

"And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things, which were written in the books."

"The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:12-15)."

This will be a horrid event. Then and there starts eternity.

Please be sure you will not be in that crowd. Get saved today.

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Sandy White

■ **EVENT:** Honouring Port's volunteers

IMPORT NEWS PHOTO Joe Cseh

A barbecue lunch was held at Sherkston Shores on Sunday in honour of the City of Port Colborne's numerous volunteers who dedicate their time to help make events successful. They enjoyed the lunch while listening to tropical island music. Pictured right: Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badaway, councillors Bea Kenney and Barbara Butters serve volunteers Barbara Medland and Souzy Drunet-Rankin in front.



IMPORT NEWS PHOTO Joe Cseh

Pictured above: Volunteer Brenda Daneyko paints her daughter Isabella's face.

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■ **WINNERS:** Local martial arts students bring home six wins



Submitted Photos

A group of Dayboil Jiu-Jitsu mixed martial arts students recently entered a kickboxing/maui thal event in New York and walked away with six of eight wins. The team includes Tyler Lastowka (at left), David Clarke, Josh Bitner, Bryan Agoston, Michael Sherwood, Alexis Davis, Emily Easterbrook and Kristyn Gillespie.

Lower Your Cholesterol

More and more, Canadians are suffering from high cholesterol. Hectic lifestyles, poor food choices and a lack of exercise are three of the main reasons for this alarming increase.

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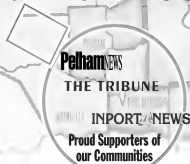
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DAN GRABOWSKI D.D.

■ **PETS:** Essential questions to ask yourself before embarking on a new puppy adventure

Ready or not



Sandie Bingley
IT'S A DOGS
LIFE

So you think that it is time to get a new puppy? Well, before you take this big step, you need to go through a check list to see if you are really ready to enter into this 10 to 12 year commitment.

Firstly, does everyone in the family want a new puppy? Of course, the kids are all for it. Remember, when they promise to help with the care and feeding, the novelty will wear off just like a Christmas must-have toy that now sits unused. Mom will end up with most — if not all — responsibilities in the end. Can she do it?

Is your yard safe for a new puppy? Fencing needs to be in good repair. Don't forget that

puppies can dig out under fences. Gates need to latch and lock properly. Swimming pools need to be fenced off to keep puppy out. Many items such as garden hoses and toys will need to be stored in another location or risk being chewed. A dog run may be the answer and they come in different styles and prices.

Inside the house there will be many items and areas that are unsafe for the puppy. The best plan is to only allow the puppy into one room to start with so he can be watched carefully at all times.

Puppies are expensive even after the purchase which can be anywhere from free to thousands of dollars. All puppies will need food, shots, toys, equipment and training classes. There will always be more expenses for the dog as he grows.

Here is the big question — does your family really

have time for a puppy? House training is time-consuming but necessary. Every day, you need time for feeding, walks, playtime and training.

You will all need to agree on which breed or mix of breeds that you prefer. You need to decide whether you want a male or female. Neutering or spaying is another expense.

Plan ahead as to who will get to choose the puppy. It can get very tense when everyone wants a different puppy. What started as a great adventure could leave some family members unhappy.

Finally, if you already have a dog, how will he adjust to a new active puppy?

Don and Sandie Bingley of Sandon Kennels in Sherston have bred Pembroke Welsh Corgis and Tibetan Spaniels for 35 years. They can be reached at 905-894-4945.

■ KENYA

Student launches local chapter of Free the Children

FROM PAGE 2

She said mamas, as the women are called, will fetch water up to three times a day and will walk between 15 minutes and two hours to get to water streams. They also tend to children, cattle, cook and typically work 18-hour days. Men on the other hand, she said, will work if "they're in the mood."

Most families have six to 10 children and live in huts made of mud and cow manure.

Throughout the three-week experience, Salvage was most surprised to see how genuinely happy the adults and children were in Salween.

"I expected to see devastation. I came back knowing we can learn something," she said.

"They're so generous, welcoming and so thankful for everything they have."

Last week, Salvage returned to Port Colborne High School with the goal of creating a Free the Children group with her friend Shayna Dwyer who attends Lakeshore Catholic High School.

She hopes a group of 15 or more people could raise \$8,500 to build a school.

Those interested in joining Salvage's group can contact her at 905-835-0442.

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DAN GRABOWSKI D.D.

■ alongthelakeshore

Sept. 18

Port Cares is hosting a barbecue with all proceeds being donated to the United Way of South Niagara. Hamburgers, hot dogs, beverages and homemade treats will be available. The event is to be held at the market square from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come out and visit with Rita Fournier from Giant FM and support the United Way of South Niagara.

Sept. 19

Morgan's Point United Church, 14830 Lakeshore Rd. W., is holding a pancake supper and silent auction. Auction viewing begins at 5 p.m., supper starts at 6 p.m. with donations accepted.

All funds raised will benefit Under the Influence of Jo ministries. For information or tickets call Bamble Reker at 905-899-3625.

Sept. 21

Norland Point Auxiliary is meeting at 6 p.m. with a potluck supper. Volunteers are needed and all interested persons are welcome.

Sept. 23

A blood donor clinic will be held at Port Colborne High School from 1 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 1-888-2 DONATE to book an appointment.

Sept. 24 to 26

The Wainfleet Fall fair will run near the arena and in the soccer fields. Lots to see and do.

Oct. 30

Meals on Wheels Port Colborne will host a

"spooktacular" murder mystery dinner in support of the United Way. Tickets are \$40 for the dinner to be held at the Croatian National Home on Broadway Ave. in Welland. Call 905-835-1581 for tickets.

Ongoing

• Kids zone, for children age six to 12, runs every Monday and Friday from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the centre for Community Living, 100 McRae Ave. It begins Monday Sept. 14 and runs until June 18, 2010 for a \$5 registration fee. Free transportation available. Call 905-835-8941 ext. 135. All events are supervised by adults.

• Teen zone for youth, age 13 to 18, every Wednesday from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Reach Out Center, 60 Nickel St. Held from Wednesday

Sept. 16 to June 18, 2010 for a \$5 registration fee. Free transportation is available by calling 905-835-8941 ext. 135 to participate in adult supervised events. Held in cooperation with Community Living Port Colborne-Wainfleet and Port Cares.

• During September, The Port Country Pantry at 50 Charlotte St. will donate \$1 from every \$10 purchase (before taxes) to the Wainfleet Skating Club. Customers must make it known before checking out that they are making the purchase on behalf of the Wainfleet Skating Club.

• Adult Children of Alcoholics is an anonymous 12-step program and support group for persons who grew up with alcohol or dysfunction. Meetings Fridays, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Central United Church, 30 Delhi St. Newcomers are welcome.

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Surviving the recession

MAGGIE RIOPELLE
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Businesses continue to adjust to the current economic times in hopes of weathering the economic storm.

And business owners in Port Colborne are optimistic that better times are ahead of them as long as they continue to get community support.

Mone's Ready Shoppe, which has been locally owned and operated since 1929, has seen its fair share of ups and downs. While some businesses are seeing a slash in profits this year, owner Marty Glabb experienced a hit in 2008.

"The recession seemed to hit here 18 months earlier," he said. "Last year, 2008, was the slowest. I'm not saying that this year I'm breaking any sales records, I'm not seeing what I saw three years ago, but it's better than last year."

In his opinion, the worst is over. To survive those record lows last year, he cut back on staff, didn't stock the store with too many big ticket items that couldn't be moved as quickly and focused more on what he does best — providing customers with quality service. So when the economy took a dive, he was already prepared and, as an owner, he was working overtime to cut back on staff salaries.

"I work six days a week — I'm in business that's what we do — and I have help from a part-time person," he said.

There was a time when he had six people here. Asked if he has seen the impact of the downturn, he said there is no doubt that people are cutting back overall but customer habits are hard to gauge because there can be so many factors at play. One thing he has noticed is people don't seem to be scaling back on big ticket items, but they do seem to be shopping for better deals.

"You may cut back on a vacation but not on home entertainment," he added.

But it's not all bad news, he said. In fact, Glabb is of the opinion that the "worst of it is no question behind us, it will get better. I think we are on the upswing."

Like many communities, Port Colborne has its own share of vacant storefronts. But many businesses are surviving by making adjustments needed to keep the business afloat. It helps, too, that a lot of local businesses get local support. Many know their customers by name and provide more personal customer service, said Glabb.

At Canalside Pub and Eatery, owner Greg Poisson said "obviously, it is tougher times — no doubt about it."

And like Glabb, the owners of the pub have been working more hours to cut back on staffing costs.

"No doubt there is a crunch out there... I'd like to see our business increase because we're still fairly new, but this time of year is always a bit slower," he said.

With the closure of the Windjammer said a few doors around the pub, many have thought Canalside business increased — and it did just the opposite, he said. In the bar industry, customers like to go to areas that are hubs of activity and with the loss of one bar, there is less action on West St., overall, he said.

"There is a lot of fluctuation. I don't know how much is based on kids going back to school and the economy," said Poisson.

"We'll have to watch our money and work more hours. We'll pull through."

Over at 270th West, owner Terri Spinney said despite some of the doom and gloom reports out there, the business is "doing just fine."

"Our local people are very supportive and tend to shop local," she said. "This summer we also had an influx of American clientele, which was nice to see throughout the summer season."

Spinney said the business does seem to have more stock left over from summer sales. However, it's difficult to determine if that's a result of a rainy summer keeping shoppers at bay or a result of the economy, she said.

"I don't feel it's from the economy's crisis... but that may be because of the clientele we have," said Spinney.

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Abolishing small game licensing

InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET — The Township of Wainfleet is looking into eliminating its small game licensing program.

During its August meeting, council heard a delegation from Alfred Martelli of the Port Colborne and District Conservation Club who highlighted the change in the area's habitat and small game population.

At the peak of its pheasant program, the conservation club would raise day-old chicks and release them at six to eight weeks old into the wild.

"At that time, we received one dollar for each licence sold, with 50% of the proceeds going to a club," he said of the prime hunting season.

After raising the birds was no longer feasible, the club purchased adult birds and released them. But with the drop in licence sales, so came a drop in funds for the program.

Traditionally, a municipality would require that hunters purchase small game licence to hunt in their area. However, Martelli said with the drop in licence purchases and less hunting result in less of a need for the town-

ship's municipal hunting licence.

This was the beginning of the end. With fewer birds, fewer people hunted them and it went downhill from there.

Subsequently conservation officers have not been checking for licences.

Hunters must also purchase an outdoors card issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources which dictates what type and size of game can be hunted.

During the 2002/2003 hunting season, 14 resident and 108 non-resident licence were issued, compared to the 2008/2009 season where 20 residents and 54 non-resident licences were issued.

A portion of the revenue from licence sales go towards the Port Colborne and District Conservation Club and to the Central Sportsman Club.

"This does not mean that our club will walk away from working with the Wainfleet Township — far from it. We want to continue with habitat work in any way we can."

Council will decide at its Sept. 22 meeting if it will abolish the municipal small game licence.

■ BUSINESS

Some merchants seeing increased sales despite economic downturn

FROM PAGE 11

At the Picket Fence and Grant's Gifts, Paula Opdam said community support for local business has been amazing.

"We've been getting a lot of community support. Some stores are closing, but it's survival of the fittest — you have to be dedicated. I've seen a lot of locals support us more because they want businesses to stay here," she said.

And, she said, while some businesses struggle to stay afloat and are cutting back on staff, she recently hired another employee. Business, she said, has been going well despite what some may believe.

Over at #27 Restaurant, owner Mike Sloat said his business has actually seen an increase of as much as 30% over last year's profits, which

I think it's more about reputation. We've actually hired more staff.

Mike Sloat, #27 Restaurant

I've seen a lot of locals support us more because they want businesses to stay here.

Paula Opdam, The Picket Fence and Grant's Gifts

he attributed to the fact that in those five years of business, customers have come to expect excellent food and quality service.

"We're consistent, I think it's more about reputation," he said.

"We've actually hired more staff."

Sloat suspects "more middle of the road places are more hurt than high end" during these difficult economic times. Most of #27's customers are not impacted by these global issues, he said.

As for local support, Sloat said some 80% of the customers, since the day the business opened its doors, are locals.

"We do our marketing locally," he said. "And personally and professionally, we support as many local businesses as we can."

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■ **AUTO RACING:** Rusty Wallace, Kenny Wallace, Dave Blaney and Jimmy Spencer come to Humberstone

Fans gather to see NASCAR stars

JOHN VESSOFF
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — For 20 years, Scott Pettit has been following the career of Rusty Wallace, traveling to the U.S. to see the NASCAR icon race over and over again.

In that time, he never met the man. However, that all changed yesterday.

Pettit, a Stevensville resident, was one of hundreds of auto racing fans at New Humberstone Speedway yesterday to meet Wallace, Kenny Wallace, Jimmy Spencer and Dave Blaney in the Stars of NASCAR event at the Port Colborne raceway.

The 54-year-old Pettit got Wallace's autograph and had a brief conversation with him before walking towards one of the other stars who were signing their names for fans.

Pettit seemed emotional and was almost speechless after his encounter with his idol.

"I am overjoyed," Pettit said. "It's been a longtime coming."

Rusty Wallace seemed to be enjoying himself too, interacting with fans and the media, and posing for photographers who were on hand to capture the moment. This is said to be the first time popular NASCAR riders have come to Humberstone, the dirt track which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

"The biggest thing I enjoy is coming to different parts of the country and meeting all the race fans," Wallace said.

"I don't drive cars any longer — I work for ESPN — whenever I get to come by and look at all of this memorabilia that the folks bring by, my old pictures and stuff, I love signing that stuff."

"To see the fans, that's one of my main reasons coming to short track to see the fans."

He said Canada is a great country with friendly citizens, similar to the U.S.

There might be a future for NASCAR here, he said. "I wore a long sleeve shirt I thought it was going to be cold, but it's not," he said, laughing. "It's nice up here. I enjoy it."

There might be a future for NASCAR here, he said.

"We were in Montreal a couple of weeks ago and it was packed solid. People love it and I really wish NASCAR was up in this area."

Rusty's brother, Kenny, had races in Montreal and Saskatchewan this year and also competed in his 800th race.

"It's a milestone, anybody can look at it anyway they want. I have a 190 top 10s out of 800 races — that's about .250 batting average," he said.

"Here's the deal with me — if somebody would've told me that people would hire me for 20 years ... that's a dream. I'm grateful and I'm thankful."



JOHN VESSOFF Staff Photo

NASCAR star Dave Blaney signs and autograph for Jeff DiaManti of Burlington Sunday night at New Humberstone Speedway.

Coming here and racing against fellow NASCAR stars and regular Humberstone competitors is a privilege, he added.

"It's a feather in my cap, it's part of my journey in life," said Wallace, who started racing modifieds four years ago in Springfield, Illinois.

"I'm 46 years old and here I am riding a modified in Canada. It's a lot of fun."

Spencer, who is from Wilkes-Barre/Scanton, Pennsylvania, remembers when he was on the dirt track as a lad.

"I started racing dirt for two years, it's a lot of fun. You get to know everybody. The neat thing is you hope some guy wins, and you hope it's you," he said.

The NASCAR stars were originally scheduled to arrive in south Niagara in August, but plans changed when the rains ruined the event.

■ SOCCER

Port Colborne under 10 Azzurri going to championship

For InPort News

After a nail-biting game on Aug. 31, Port Colborne beat Lincoln in shoot outs to advance to the semifinals.

The semifinal game saw the Azzurri take on the league champion Niagara Falls, Niagara Falls and Port Colborne had met three previous times with Niagara Falls being the victor at each match.

Port Colborne was not ready to end their season quite yet though, as the girls came out flying.

Victoria Klauk scored the first goal of the game after she made a beautiful move around the defense, had the goalie go the wrong way and put the ball in the net. The goal motivated the girls to play hard for the rest of the game.

Niagara Falls answered back in the second half but that didn't slow the Azzurri down. Both teams had chances to end the game during regulation time, but goalie Emily Charon would not let a goal go in the net. After regulation time and two, five minute overtimes couldn't determine a winner, the game went into shoot-out.

Goalie Emily Charon was a ball magnet in net as she allowed only one shot in out of four. Port Colborne put in three hard shots to win the game.

Port Colborne defense, Cassandra DeCicco, Isabella Favero, Zoey Kostal-Nicholson and Claire Gittins did an amazing job of breaking up the passing game of Niagara Falls and putting the ball up to the forwards.

Forwards Klauk, Emily Meyden, Amanda Nohel, Andrea Benner, Karina Aracand, Hannah Peyton, Allison Mahon and Madison Belanger fought hard for every ball, and forced the Niagara Falls goalie to make some great saves.

The girls championship game is on Saturday, Sept. 19 at the Thomas A. Lannan Sports Complex where Port Colborne is hosting all of the girls final games.

Coaches Paul Favero, Rich Meyden and Crane Gittins thank all of the parents, grandparents and fans who supported the girls during their first year of travel soccer.

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■ **SAFETY:** Almost 30 motorists ticketed in Port school

Police slam brakes on speeding

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — As students went back to school on Sept. 8, the NRP was out in full force ensuring school zones were safe for students.

In Port Colborne 27 speeding tickets were issued, three motorists were issued tickets for failing to stop at a stop sign and two seat belt tickets were issued.

Two people were also arrested for possession of marijuana.

In Wainfleet, nine speeding tickets were issued.

District 6 had 10 officers on duty which rotated between the city's 10 school zones.

"An increase in traffic enforcement is something we will continue to focus on so we have a decrease in fatalities and that our cities are safe," said Port Colborne staff Sgt. Joe Garvey.

"It's a year-round effort."

To help reinforce a positive message, information about Port's Safe Communities project was handed out in addition to Think and Drive key chains.

Across Niagara's 12 municipalities, 341 drivers were issued Provincial Offence Notices for aggressive driving violations including speeding, 20 drivers were issued with Provincial Offence Notices for seatbelt/child safety restraint violations, 27 received warnings for traffic violations and five arrests were made for driving offences.



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■ PEOPLE, PLACES: A trip down memory lane at the Port Colborne bureau

The end of an era for The Tribune's local office



George Duma
BY GEORGE

Almost 25 years ago, a 28-year-old reporter pulled into Port Colborne for the first time in his life.

It was a cold, dreary mid-October day. Winter was coming early in the fall of 1984 and the chill in the damp air was proof of that.

He had just been hired by *The Tribune's* managing editor of the day, Jim Middleton, to work in the paper's Port bureau. He was moving to Niagara from Lindsay, Ont., where he had been the editor of the daily paper in that town, *The Lindsay Post*.

As he pulled into the city to explore his new gigs, a sense of foreboding overtook him. Back in '84, Port Colborne was a depressed — and depressing — town; nothing like it is now. The Inco smelter stood alone against the sky in the grey of the day. It was shortly after the huge Inco layoffs of the early '80s when hundreds of employees had either been given their pink slips or had accepted transfers to places like Thompson, in the winds of Northern

Manitoba.

The leaves had pretty much fallen off the trees by the time he arrived in Port. There were countless abandoned buildings and storefronts, including two old grocery stores that currently house the 7-11-Shoppers Drug Mart and Port Cares complexes, respectively. Profane graffiti covered both buildings. He wanted to turn around, go back to Welland, and tell Middleton he had a change of heart. But he didn't.

He had come into the city by way of Main Street thinking this was the downtown. He got to the canal before realizing he had travelled following the directions to *The Trib's* Port office on King St. He had missed a turn.

He turned around and drove slowly back west along Main, coming to the old bank building that currently houses the State Farm Insurance office. This was the turn he missed. He made the left and drove the long stretch to Clarence St., where he realized the unique city had two major commercial areas.

Finally, he found *The Tribune's* office, an unspectacular building at the corner of King and Kent Sts. that would be his professional home for the foreseeable future. He went in and introduced himself. Suddenly, things got a whole lot better.

It was an invaluable lesson for me that day as I embarked on my career at *The Tribune*. It was the old proverbial one about not judging a book by its cover.

I met Eoin (pronounced Owen) Kenny, who at that time was the Port Colborne bureau editor. I met Bob Cloes, who was the bureau's general manager. They both welcomed me as if I was long-lost family and immediately made me feel like part of the team.

In those days, the Port office was a beehive of activity. There were advertising sales representatives, reporters and administrative staff all working together under one roof in what, at times, resembled organized chaos. But we all enjoyed each other's company and we really did operate like a family.

The office at the time was truly self-sustaining. We even had our own darkroom downstairs where we would process our own film and make contact sheets for the photos that would accompany our stories.

I would work in the bureau for a few years, taking over the editor's position when Eoin moved on, before eventually transferring to the Welland office and joining the staff there. But I will forever remember with fondness my days in that little bureau, a block away from the



GEORGE DUMA InPort News Photo

The Port Colborne bureau of *The Tribune* looks much the same as it did in 1984. The office will close Friday, Sept. 25 and all services will be offered from the Welland office at 228 East Main St.

Welland Canal.

I realize the newspaper industry is currently going through some very trying times. Still, it was with a heavy heart that I greeted the news of The Port Colborne office of *The Tribune* will close next Friday, Sept. 25, after the workday is done.

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Best Wishes Only

Saturday, September 19, 2009 3:00p.m. - 7

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This ad has been previously approved by Sun Media.
The official media partner of the 9.5 My Time Campaign.

BACK TO SCHOOL



Submitted Photo

Brittany Shute, a Grade 9 student at Port Colborne High School, participated in a Grade 9 welcome activity held during the first week of school. It was aimed at helping Grade 9 students become familiar with their new surroundings.

BY GEORGE

Setting the record straight on Marshville

FROM PAGE 19

It marks the end of decades and decades of *The Tribune's* physical presence in the community. And as financially prudent as the newspaper company's bean counters may think it is, it nevertheless brings to a close an era.

And it brings tears to my eyes.

For those of you who read last week's piece on Marshville, it seems I misunderstood a point made by Bob Arthur about what I thought was the Marshville Heritage Committee.

I received a lovely note from Marshville's Art Dean. To clear up any confusion, I'll let Art tell it:

"George, I happen to be one of the four people who started the Marshville Heritage Festival and remain a committee member and a director. I would like to express my thanks to you for the excellent article you wrote for the InPort News. It is extremely encouraging, being involved with the festival, and reading something as professionally written with as many positive remarks as you gave ...

"That being said, I might say Bob Arthur was referring to the Wainfleet Historical Society instead of the Marshville Heritage Society who both hold their meetings in the P.L. Hall but are separate organizations. We did start out as the Wainfleet Historical Society but later split and became a separate incorporated body. The Wainfleet Historical Society does have 40-50 people attend their meetings and is open to the public; we are not. The Marshville Heritage Society committee consists of 11 persons who are responsible for organizing and operating the festival. Four directors are included in this group.

"Once again George, you have our sincere thanks for a job well done. Respectfully, Art Dean."

Thank you so much for clarifying that, Art, and thank you for your kind words.

Well that's it for this week, dear readers. The pig roast at First Lutheran Church Saturday night was a huge success thanks to Chuck Simpson from Pig Roast Promotions, to Matthew Ayres for all the organizing he did and to the countless volunteers who helped out with a variety of chores. The meal was fabulous as was watching a movie out in the courtyard under the stars. It will probably become an annual event.

George Duma is a resident of Port Colborne and has spent 30 years in the newspaper business. He is currently a member of the journalism faculty at Niagara College. He welcomes comments and column suggestions and can be reached at gduma@cogeco.ca.